REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action of July 3, 2008 is gratefully acknowledged.

Claims 5 - 8 have been re-examined and finally rejected under 35 USC 102(a) by "PROFIBUS."

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The essential idea of the present invention, is to produce from the lots of different available "standard" device descriptions syntactically and semantically correct standard device descriptions (such as e.g. EDDs), and then to convert these into the corresponding software modules.

The PROFIBUS reference does not disclose the generation of syntactically and semantically correct standard device descriptions from available device descriptions like PDM, HCF or company-specific device descriptions by means of a first compiler or generator. In section 7.2 of PROFIBUS we find a disclosure to "integrate existing profile descriptions in the device descriptions (...)" using the EDDL language. This does not mean that existing device descriptions can be transferred to syntactically and semantically correct EDDL language device descriptions by a compiler.

Consequently, the PROFIBUS reference does not disclose the two-step process of first producing syntactically and semantically correct device descriptions from "standard" device descriptions, and then converting these into software modules.

In the prior art it has been known to convert available device descriptions by means of compilers or generators into corresponding software modules. This

4

has been acknowledged in the description , pg. 2, lines 30 - 35 of the specification. Nothing else is disclosed on page 27, Section 7.3 of "DTM generation". "Generation from an existing device description using a compiler or interpreter," however, is not the method specified in claim 5.

Since available device descriptions exist in several non-compatible forms or languages, such as for example PDM device descriptions, HCF device descriptions or any company specific device descriptions (see pg. 3, lines 1 - 6 of the specification), it is necessary to provide a separate compiler for each of these formats. This is now recited in claim 5 but not found in PROFIBUS.

Claim 5 should now be allowed as well as claims 6 - 8 and new claims 9 and 10.

Entry of the amendment to claim 5, and of new claims 9 and 10 is respectfully requested and claim 5 - 10 allowed.

Respectfully submitted,
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

Date: October 3, 2008

Felix J. D'Ambrosio
Attorney for Applicant
Registration Number 25,721

Customer Number *23364*
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Telephone: (703) 683-0500
Facsimile: (703) 683-1080
S:\Producer\fjd\CLIENTS\Endress+Hauser Holding GmbH\WITT3005-CD0176\Oct 3 2008 response.wpd